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FROM THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.

MESSRS. EDITORS: As the time is rapidly approching when it will be necessary for Congress to take measures to carry into effect the munificent intentions of the founder of this institution, it seems proper that the public attention should be called to it—and particularly the inhabitants of this District, who, from its location among them, are specially interested in the matter, should awake to its importance, and endeavor, if posible, to have the initiatory steps towards its organization taken in the wisest and most efficient mode. Much diversity of opinion exists as to the most suitalbe way of effecting the object intended by the donor. I have heard, however, but three plans suggested, that are at all likely to please the public taste: 1. The establishment of a regular university on the plan of the most celebrated German institutions, where a very extensive course of instruction should be pursued. 2. A college proper, like most of our seminaries, where a regular classical education, and nothing else, could be obtained.—And 3. The appointment of professors to lecture merely, on most branches of science and literature, but without any regular collegiate organization, and without the power of conferring degrees.

It seems to me, however, that an examination of the various plans will decide every reflecting citizen in favor of the first, for this, if for no other reason: that it can redily be so modified as to present all the advantages of the other two combined, while it will offer some possessed by neither. Indeed, the only plausible objection that I have ever heard urged to this scheme is, that the funds placed at our disposal are inadequate to accomplish it, and that it would be better to have an institution on a small scale than to attempt more than could be well done. This objection, however, I consider more specious than solid, as I hope will appear in the course of this discussion. Permit me then, Messrs. Editors, without occupying any more space in preliminary remarks, to present briefly an outline of such an institution as in my humble opinion would be best adapted to the wants of the District and the surrounding country, and best suited to the amount of the funds left for its support.

I would have, then a *University* embracing a collegiate course proper, where the system adopted in most of our colleges would be pursued, to be crowned at its tremination by the degree of Bachelor of Arts—and also popular courses of lectures on all the most important branches of science and learning, which should be open to all persons, of both sexes and all ages. Whether a medical and a law chool should also be organized, might very well be left for future consideration, and, at any rate, they need not in any way alter or modify the other part of the plan. In this way, it seems to me, the acquisitions of the learned gentlemen who will fill the various professional appointments may be rendered most extensively useful to the Public.

A thorough classical and scientific education might be obtained by those who are willing to devote the time necessary for a complete collegiate course; while those whose time, or circumstances, or pleasure, or destination in life, might lead them to pursue any particular branch of science or literature, might also be gratified. Thus, the mechanic, the engineer, the merchant, the gentlemen in public office, the officers of the army and navy, could each attend to such departments of learning as might be best adopted to his peculiar situation and pursuits.

Facilities should be afforded for instuction in the following branches: Intellectual and Moral Philosophy, Political Economy, Belles Letters, Elocution; English, Latin Greek, French, Spanish, German, and Italian languages and literature; Mathematics, Engineering, Natural Philosophy, Astronomy, Chemistry, Botany, Geology, Mineralogy; Anatomy, Human, and Comparative; Physiology, Zoology, Hygiene and Dietetics, General Principles of Law, Painting, Drawing, Architecture, Application of Mechanical Philosophy to the Arts.

These branches could be taught by eight or ten professors, assisted by a few lecturers or instructors, with salaries varying from $500 to $2000, according to the amount of time and labor each might be required to devote to the duties of his chair, and to the extent of fees he would receive from those attending his course. The persons attending the different courses of lectures should pay a small fee (say $2 to $5) for the privilege—because what is obtained for nothing is generally little valued, because it would assist to support the professors, and because it would offer a high stimulus to them to discharge their duties in the best manner, as the amount of their income would thus depend, in part, on the number of their pupils. By this mode, it is believed very handsome incomes might be realized by competent individuals, without drawing very heavily upon the permanent funds of the institution. The whole annual expense of supporting the faculty, in addition to the fees received from students, need not exceed $16,000, which would leave a surplus of $14,000 for the erection of additional buildings, procuring a library, apparatus, scientific collections, &c.

With respect to buildings—let there be erected, in the first instance, but one edifice, for the public purposes of the university, containing rooms for recitations, lectures, cabinets, library, &c. One sufficiently large for these purposes (and in a style of architecture which would be ornamental to the city) could be constructed for $90,000. And this should be done without encroaching upon the principal of the fund—(the whole of which should be sacredly reserved for the benefit of future generations;) and, in fact, there can be no pretence for expending more than the interest, for the building cannot be erected in less than two years, and one year's income ($30,000) will have been already hoarded by the time it can possibly be commenced. Houses for the accommodation of the professors, and for boarding such students from a distance as may desire it, can be provided as they may be needed.

The mode of governing the institution is a subject of great importance, and, unless this part o the matter is judiciously managed, all our hopes o its usefulness and distinction will be blasted. Sad expe ience in many, if not in most of our States has already shown that literary institutions cannot flourish where the blighting influence of political partisanship can reach them. Scarcely one of the colleges under the control of a State Legislature has ever prospered; and so well satisfied of this have several of these bodies become, that they have voluntarily relinquished all power over them and placed them under the exclusive charge o trustees appointed for life, with the right to fill their own vacancies.

Admonished by these unfortunate results, I would withdraw, as soon as possible, the Smithsonian Institution from under the *immediate* care of Congress. A board of trustees (from five to fifteen in number) should be appointed by the President or a joint committee of the two Houses, to be selected from the District and surrounding country, with power to fill their own vacancies and to direct every thing relating to the seminary, subject to such restrictions and regulations as Congress may think advisable. L.

A LEARNED BLACKSMITH.

At a recent meeting of the friends of Education in Bristol county, held at Taunton, among others Mr. Webster and Governor Everett addressed the meeting subsequently to the able address of Mr. Mann. Governor Everett introduced into his speech an extract of a most interesting letter from a "*Learned Blacksmith*," illustrating the truth which he repeats, *that every man may find leisure for reading and study*. We think our readers will peruse with interest the following extract from the Governor's speech:

"It is a great mistake to suppose that it is necessary to be a professional man in order to have leisure to indulge a taste for reading. Far otherwise. I believe the machanic, engineer, the husbandman, the trader, have quite as much leisure as the average men in the learned profession. I know some men busily engaged in these different callings of active life, whose minds are well stored with various useful knowledge acquired from books. There could be more such men, if education in our common schools were, as it well might be, of a higher order; and if Common School Libraries well furnished, were introduced into every district, as I trust in due time they will be. It is surprising, sir, how much may be effected even under the most unfavorable circumstances for the improvement of the mind, by a person resolutely bent on acquisition of knowledge. A letter has lately been put into my hands, bearing date the 6th September, so interesting in itself, and so strongly illustrative of this point, that I will read a portion of it; though it was written I am sure without the least view to publicity.

'I was the youngest (says the writer,) of many brethren, and my parents were poor. My means of education were limited to the advantages of a district school, and those again were circumscribed by my father's death, which deprived me at the age of fifteen of those scanty opportunities, which I had previously enjoyed. A few months after his decease, I apprenticed myself to a blacksmith in my native village. Thither I carried an indomitable taste for reading, which I had previously acquired through the medium of the society library—all the historical works in which, I had at that time perused. At the expiration of a little more than half my appenticeship, I suddenly conceived the idea of studying Latin. Through the assistance of an elder brother, who had himself obtained a collegiate education by his own exertions. I completed my Virgil during the evenings of one winter. After some time devoted to Cicero, and a few other Latin authors, I commenced the Greek: at this time it was necessary that I should devote every hour of daylight, and a part of the evening, to do the duties of my apprenticeship.—Still I carried my Greek grammar in my hat, often found a moment, when I was heating some large iron, when I could place my book open before me against the chimney of my forge, and go through with *tupto, tupteis, tuptei*, and, unperceived by my fellow apprentices, and to my confusion of face, with the detrimental effect to the charge in my fire. At evening I sat down unassisted, to the Iliad of Homer, twenty books of which measured my progress in that language during the evenings of another winter. I next turned to the modern languages, and was much gratified to learn that my knowledge of Latin furnished me with a key to the literature of most of the languages of Europe. This circumstance gave a new impulse to the desire of acquainting myself with the philosophy, derivation and affinity of the different European tongues. I could not be reconciled to limit myself in those investigations to a few hours after the arduous labors of the day. I therefore laid down my hammer and went to New Haven, where I recited to native teachers in French, Spanish, German, and Italian. I returned at the expiration of two years to the forge, bringing with me such books in those languages as I could procure.—When I had read these books through, I commenced the Hebrew, with an awakened desire of examining another field; and by assiduous application, I was enabled in a few weeks to read this language with such facility that I allotted it to myself as a task to read two chapters in the Hebrew Bible, before breakfast each morning; this and an hour at noon being all the time that I could devote to myself during the day. After becoming somewhat familiar with this language, I looked around me for the means of initiating myself in the fields of oriental literature, and to my deep regret and concern I found my progress in this direction hedged in by the want of requisite books. I began immediately to devise means of obviating this obstacle; and after many plans, I concluded to seek a place as a sailor on board some ship bound to Europe, thinking in this way to have opportunties of collecting at different ports such works in the modern and oriental languages as I found necessary for this object. I left the forge at my native place to carry this plan into execution.

I travelled on foot to Boston, a distance of more than a hundred miles, to find some vessel bound to Europe. In this I was disappointed, and while revolting in my mind what steps next to take, I accidentally heard of the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester. I immediately bent my steps towards this place. I visited the hall of the A. A. S., and found there, to my infinite gratification, such a collection of ancient, modern and oriental languages as I never before conceived to be collected in one place, and Sir, you may imagine with what sentiments of gratitute I was affected, when upon evincing a desire to examine some of these rich and rare works, I was kindly invited to unlimited participation in all the benefits of this noble institution. Availing myself of the kindness of the directors, I spent about three hours daily at the hall, which, with an hour at noon and about three in the evening, make up the portion of the day which I appropriate to my studies, the rest being occupied in arduous manual labor.—Through the facilities afforded by this institution, I have added so much to my previous acquaintance with the ancient, modern, and oriental languages, as to be able to read upwards of FIFTY of them with more or less facility.'

"I trust, Mr. President, I shall be pardoned by the ingenious author of this letter, and the gentleman to whom it is addressed, (W. Lincoln, Esq. of Worcestor,) for the liberty which I have taken, unexpected I am sure by both of them, in thus making it public. It discloses a resolute purpose of improvement under obstacles and difficulties of no ordinary kind, which excites my admiration, I may say my veneration. It is enough to make one who has had good opportunities for education hang his head in shame."

MEMOIRS OF LAFAYETTE.

From the New York American.

We give to-day a continuation of the able review of the *Memoirs of Lafayette*, from the pen of our Parisian correspondent:

EUROPEAN CORRESPONDENCE OF THE N. Y. AMERICAN.

More than one half of the fourth volume—the first of the second series—is occupied with a selection of cursory notes by Lafayette on various works relating to the French Revolution, such as those of Neckar, De Bouille, Madame Roland, De Moleville, Thiers, &c. He confirms or controverts passages of each according to his intimate personal knowledge and better opportunities of judgment. He exerts in the critique that wonderful memory which was as ready as it was retentive, touching every individual and occurrence ever subject to his observation. His several critiques dissipate important errors, and throw new lights upon events and characters. I must be content to pass over all this, however interesting, except a few lines here and there.

He mentions that Genet was sent to the United States by the Girondists, expressly charged with the task of disorganizing our country and exasperating its parties. He quotes, as an antithesis to Genet's spirit and conduct, the answer of *La Luzerne* in 1778, when urged to endeavor to create then in America the distinction of French and English party. "I might not scruple to employ 'in Germany the ordinary expedients of diplo-'macy; but I should feel culpable in using them 'among these honest Americans, and a people quite new." In another place, he says of Tom Paine, "Nothing better proves how little freedom 'there was in the French elections after the 10th 'of August, than the nomination of this writer by 'the department of the Pas de Calais, with which 'he had no connexion whatever. Moreover, he 'was entirely ignorant of the French language, so 'that, in the debates of the Convention, he could 'not understand what was said, nor even read his 'motions to the Assembly. But the Girondists 'exalted Thomas Paine as one of the Legislators 'of America, though they knew that he had nev-'er been, there, a member of any deliberative bo-'dy. In the Convention he voted against the death 'of the King, and asked for his deportation to 'America." Lafayette everywhere treats that death as an assassination. He reprobates strongly the publications of Paine against Washington; acknowledging at the same time the efficiency of his pamphlets, and the soundness of his *Rights of Man*. He exposes some of the many gross mistakes and misrepresentations of *Thiers*, in his History of the French Revolution, which is the narrative of a partisan. I found, after I had been for some time in a situation to observe closely, and learn the real opinion of competent judges, that I originally overrated several of the most conspicuous among the French politicians and authors; and M. Thiers is of the number. He does not possess the true qualifications of a historian or a statesman—no catalogue of his merits includes political rectitude. In the composition of the *History of Florence*, upon which he is employed, he will command, probably, new materials of considerable interest, as all possible aids are lent to his researches; but there can be really no superior performance without probity of spirit, activity of moral sense, philosophical range and depth of thought, powers of just reasoning, and mastery of style.

The remainder of the fourth volume consists of Lafayette's *Prison* Correspondence, (from 1792 to 1797,) his Reminiscences on his liberation ("*Souvenirs en sortant de Prison*,") and his correspondence during the years 1797 and 1798. The story of his treatment by the Governments of Prussia and Austria is too well known to need repetition here. The atrocity of that treatment could be equalled only by the cheerful fortitude and inflexible virtue of their illustrious victim. The details which he gives, in his letters, of the *tender mercies* which he experienced, are calculated to revive that detestation of Prussian and Austrian power which recent representations and events have served to mitigate on both sides of the Atlantic. The whole press of Europe rings with the amnesty just granted at Milan, by the Emperor Ferdinand. The Opposition journals of Paris make the most of it for the honor and glorification of the Austrian Government, in order to create a contrast as injurious as possible to the credit of Louis Phillippe's amnesty. Those Lombardo-Venitian subjects of Ferdinand, who are the objects of this vaunted act of Imperial grace and goodness, have already expiated their political sins by the severest sufferings in dungeons and distant exile. The banished may return only on the terms which the Government shall please to prescribe—a Government altogether absolute and arbitrary, against whose resentments, suspicions, or caprice, they would have, when again within its iron grasp, no defence whatever. I trust that our excellent friend, Maroncelli, will not yield, without full reflection and inquiry, to the temptation which must, indeed, be very strong for such an Italian to return to such a native land as Italy.

See how Lafayette describes his prison-house at Madgbourg, (March 13th, 1793:) "Figure to 'yourself a cave made under the ramparts of the 'citadel, and encompassed by a high and strong 'pallisade; it is by this that, when four gates, 'each laden with chains, padlocks, iron bars, are 'laboriously opened, my dungeon, three feet 'wide, and five long, is entered. The wall, on 'the side of the ditch, has the dampest mould; the 'sun's rays never penetrate, but a little light 'comes through a small grated window; two sentinels constantly look upon us by this vista," &c. After five months of total seclusion, permission was obtained for him to walk daily one hour in a small adjacent garden, under the strict guard of an officer. "I have," he exclaims, "at length 'felt the external air; I have again beheld the sun, 'and I am much the better for it." He relates (22d June, 1793) this anecdote: "The command-'ant at Wezel lately came to me with an official 'witness, to show me a letter of the King of Prus-'sia, his master, asking me to give him, in order 'to better my lot, some plans against France, and 'to serve the common cause. I answered them 'that the King was very impertinent to couple 'my name with such an idea." He *celebrated our fourth of July in his dungeon*; and he observes, in a letter to his aid-de-camp: "As for any 'measure in my behalf by the Americans, that 'should be subordinate to their political interests, 'of which I cannot judge where I am, but which 'I would not consent to compromit one instant 'on my account." In another letter, (16th May, 1794,) he holds this language: "Since my captivity, the American Ambassadors have never 'ceased to attend to my situation. I owe them 'public and secret remittances of money; pecuniary supplies to my aids-de-camp; news of my 'family, demands for my enlargement, which have 'been at least *preservative*." In May, 1794, the King of Prussia transferred the captive to his Imperial brother of Austria, who consigned him to the horrid prison of Olmutz, in which, until July, 1797, he was not permitted to write a line nor receive news of his family, before their arrival to partake his lot.

In 1795, Madame de Lafayette and their daughters were permitted to share his rigorous captivity. In a note, a particular account is given of the noble and unsuccessful attempt of Dr. Bollman and Major Huger (November, 1794) to rescue the benefactor of America. Madame de Lafayette's interesting letters from her cell, written and despatched clandestinely, furnish copious details of the barbarous privations to which the Austrian authorities condemned the prisoners. Pens and books, and knives and forks, *lest they should commit suicide*, were strictly forbidden. Lafayette told the officers that "he was not so *obliging* as to kill himself." Neither were Silvio Pellico, Maroncelli, and Andryane, whose recitals show the transmission of the same spirit and refinement of *levity* in the Austrian administration of *justice*.

When the effect of Madame de Lafayette's afflictions and sufferings seemed to threaten her speedy dissolution, she petitioned the Emperor o. Austria, by letter, to allow her to pass some days at Vienna, in order to obtain medical advice. Her letter bears date the 6th February, 1796. On the third of *April* following, it was, for the first time signified to her, verbally, by the commandant o Olmutz, that the Emperor acceded to her request, *provided she would not re-enter the prison*. She answered in another beautiful letter, that she would not desert her husband, whatever might be the state of her health, or the sufferings of he daughters, their companions. The victories o the French troops at length accomplished th rescue of the whole family. The doors of th dungeon of Olmutz were thrown open to them o the 19th September, 1797, by virtue of a specia agreement between Generals Bonaparte an Clarke, Plenipotentiaries of the French Republic and the Marquis King. The official note of th Generals requires that "the prisoners be set a liberty, and have facility to repair to America, o any other place, *France excepted for the presen time*." This exception and restriction (whic could not be carried into effect) Lafayette, in hi Reminiscences, ascribes to Bonaparte himself; an it is thus doubly remarkable; for we may infe that the future "Emperor and King," Napoleon already feared that the unmanageable patriot migh prove an obstacle, in France, to his ambitious as cent.

Having dwelt on the manner in which the Aus trian Government immured and gagged the apos tle of constitutional rule, I will advert to a *perso nal* resemblance which the Milan corresponder of the Paris *Journal des Debats* has discovered It is between Lafayette and Prince *Metternich* and thus mentioned: "The Prince has one of th 'finest (physical) heads of a statesman that coul 'be possibly met with by the artist or traveller 'With a forehead more developed, and more *fi 'nesse* and regularity in feature, he presents, i 'his whole person, a striking likeness to a pe 'sonage also historical, but who acted a very dif 'ferent part in the world—I mean General La 'fayette. The size, the traits of countenance, th 'sound of the voice, the mild and unreserved de 'meanor, which made Lafayette a finished patter 'of the gentleman and high nobleman, are th 'same in Metternich. Nature seems to have in 'tended, by this similitude of the exterior, to se 'in stronger relief the broad contrast in the poli 'tical sympathies and course of the two mission 'aries." As no human being's exterior has eve been so fondly contemplated and so graphically remembered by so large a portion of a numerou people as that of Lafayette by the Americans Prince Metternich's could not be better mad known to your readers than by what I have jus quoted.

I shall not be thought to wander too far, if I cite another passage of the French chronicler' account of the Coronation at Milan. "In th 'Royal group at the grand ball of the Palace wa 'a woman, to whom the looks of all the Frenc 'spectators were directed with keen curiosity an 'a degree of astonishment: it was *Marie Louise 'of Parma*, the widow of Napoleon, the ex 'Empress of France, the ex-Queen of Italy, who 'after having forgotten the name of her husband 'and abandoned her dying son, has come fro 'Parma purposely to give more eclat by her hu 'miliation to the crowning of the new King of 'Italy." The Milan correspondents of the Lon don papers depict Marie Louise as pale and sickly with a sallow complexion and a care-worn look but eclipsing even the Empresss of Austria b a blaze of diamonds from the waist upwards. The widow of Napoleon will have a niche in th temple of Fame; but how she will be exhibited at last, cannot exactly be foreseen, until the motives and circumstances of her conduct be better ascertained. She may be said to have represented at Milan, for her deceased husband, the instability of all human grandeur, and, I might add, the insufficient or treacherous promise of *Coronations*, however gorgeous and seemingly joyful. The ceremonial was, perhaps, as strong assurance for the soldier of fortune, when Napoleon stood diademed at Notre Dame, and seized the iron crown of Lombardy, as Coronations are, *at this era*, for any monarch whatever. That of Victoria was the mighty blaze and pageant, the grand concourse and proud array of *aristocracy*; that of Ferdinand, the magnificent manifestation and studied game of *Royalty*; and both are threatened all over Europe with confusion and uproar, dangerous strife, utter desecration, overthrow, at least partial, within fewer years than have been allotted to persons older than Victoria. The powers and the idols, notwithstanding the recent displays and triumphs, contrived for an imposing effect and mutual encouragement, may soon sink together before associations and exhibitions of a very different nature and drapery. There are apparitions more formidable to the absolute monarchs and privileged orders than the spectre of Lafayette. The Coronation of Victoria seems to have been the signal for unfurling in England and Scotland the *People's Charter*, which has drawn meetings of *hundreds of thousands* at Birmingham and Manchester. The more peaceable these immense Radical assemblages, the more ominous. France, Great Britain, Belgium, the Spanish and Italian peninsulas, and a large part of Germany, are all fermenting with the Democratic leaven. Louis Phillippe understood the situation of *Royalty* in general, when, just after being warmly greeted by the whole National Guard of Paris, he said to Lafayette, "This is worth more to me than the anointing at Rheims." *(Cela vaut mieux pour moi que le sacre de Rheims.)*

The *Reminiscences* which I have mentioned form a most instructive and temperate review of the several Revolutionary periods of France, and bring under notice most of the principal personages and events of the six years. With his able exposition of facts, proving a thorough acquaintance with every transaction and question, and his special comments, are blended many profound general reflections. The whole retrospect is precious for history and biography. He manifests as much abhorrence of the Jacobin maxims and excesses, as love for the cause of genuine freedom, and assurance of its final triumph. His constancy on this head is the more meritorious, that few of the noblesse had, personally, more reason to hate and deplore the Revolution than himself. His large estates were confiscated; he lost, by the guillotine, his nearest and dearest relatives, and a number of "bosom friends of his whole life;" a multitude, of both sexes, and of the noblest qualities, were murdered, or proscribed, on the express charge of "attachment to his person and principles;" and to these subjects of sorrow and aversion may be added the sanguinary plans and decrees of the Club and the Convention against himself, and the long imprisonment and agony of his beloved wife in the Paris jails, during the Reign of Terror.

He repeats the assertion that he earnestly desired and strove to save Louis XVI, while the pretended friends of that monarch preferred that he should perish rather than see him saved by his agency. Louis XVI esteemed, but was taught to distrust him; the Queen hated his presence and rejected his counsels; the rest of the Royal Family and the Court were so far blinded by their antipathies and suspicions as to machinate against all his plans and means for the protection of the royal person and the constitutional monarchy. Although irresistible evidence of his good faith, the wisdom of his views, and the infatuation of the Queen and Court, has been long extant, yet the prejudices and resentments of the Royalists are not in the least abated. Of the violent parties in the Revolution—all of whom he offended and condemned—they will be the last to forgive or spare his memory.

In the correspondence of 1797 and 1798, some of the letters are to Washington and Hamilton, whose replies do not belie their lofty intellects and generous hearts. Hamilton tells him, (April, 1798,) "I have never thought that any endeavors 'could make a republic of France; and I am con-'vinced that the experiment will be productive of 'evil alone as long as it shall be continued." One of Lafayette's remarks, in answer to this sentiment, had a prophetic character: "The re-'surrection of the French monarchy, will, *when 'the choice and the powers of the King are to 'be determined and sustained*, be attended, pro-'bably, with almost as much trouble and risk as 'special advantage." While he still thought that it was not indispensable for France, in order to be free, to have a *King*, he acknowledges that, if the republican polity were adopted, "severe laws severely executed, an active police, and a vigorous Government, would be necessary." On these points the exigency unquestionably remains. Give the Executive of France what name you please, political and social order and external power cannot be preserved unless you impart to it *monarchial* attributes—fixity, *prestige*, and much energy—*beaucoup d'energie*, Lafayette's phrase.

In the year 1798, when war was imminent between France and the United States, Washington, with characteristic sincerity, dissuaded Lafayette from emigrating then to his second country: "I do 'not wish you to come now, or before a good un-'derstanding is established between the two Go-'vernments. In case of a rupture, and even 'should matters remain as they are, you would 'witness scenes, and be called upon to take a part, 'that would greatly embarrass and distress you; 'your position would be one from which no hu-'man prudence could extricate you." This was true friendship, exerted against the strongest possible desire to possess and shield the man whom he loved with parental ardor and anxiety. He knew the predominance in Lafayette's nature of the true instincts of patriotism—those which speak in the following sentences of a letter of 1797: "The bad news from France, which distresses 'me when I am alone, renders me impatient in the 'company of persons who differ with me in poli-'tics. I cannot deny facts; my ideas of princi-'ples and duties, of liberty and tyranny, are irre-'versibly settled; but *I cannot bear to hear my 'country blamed before strangers*."

It is time for me to close this letter. The *fifth* and *sixth* volumes of the Memoirs shall be treated in another communication. They are pregnant enough for a much longer one than you could easily admit into the *American*.